

2006 PROFESSIONAL SEMINAR OVERVIEW

In the early afternoon of March 25, 2006, the first of thirty-five participants arrived at the Nancy Penn Center for the Twentieth Professional Seminar, *Hemi-Sync: the Bridge between Magic and Reason*. The day began blustery and rainy, but the weather inside was warm and cheery as old friends greeted each other with cries of delight and hugs. By the time every-one sat down to a candlelight dinner, first-timers also felt like old friends. After a welcome by Laurie Monroe and introductions, everyone headed to their CHEC units to rest up for the next day.

“Reasonable Magic & Magical Reason: The Philosophy of Robert Monroe,” the keynote address by Joseph M. Felser, PhD, created the context for the seminar. Dr. Felser examined Robert Monroe’s contention that ours is “a half-brained society”—bereft of right-brain “magic”—and considered Hemi-Sync® as a tool for producing a more balanced view of mind and reality. In “Sensory Processing and Hemi-Sync,” pediatric physical therapist Jacqueline Mast, PT, MEd, led participants in exploring their individual responses to internal and external sensory stimuli via the Short Sensory Profile screening test, as well as discussing the use of Hemi-Sync to modulate the sensory processing styles of her young clients at Mast Clinic Incorporated. Jonathan Holt, MD, covered lots of ground in his presentation, “Hemi-Sync and Psycho-Oncology.” After explaining the genesis of psycho-oncology, Dr. Holt discussed an ongoing clinical trial using Hemi-Sync to relieve the fatigue and pain of radiation oncology patients and concluded by describing the case of a suicidal cancer patient who benefited from *GOING HOME*®. Ronald Russell, MA, moderated a lively Open Forum session to exchange ideas for developing additional Hemi-Sync resources for learning-disabled children. Synchronistically, the Open Forum was followed by “Dancing with the Wind,” the story of the innovative Sound/Music/Movement Program developed by Elizabeth Kuder, MFA, and Davis Fleming, MA, to reach students with multiple disabilities. F. Holmes “Skip” Atwater, BS, engaged his rapt audience with a talk on “RNG Entropy during the *GATEWAY VOYAGE*®,” the final results of a four-year study examining quantum entropy fluctuations during that program. Skip also shared preliminary findings from the ongoing *STAR-LINES* program survey.

Without ever leaving our chairs, we enjoyed a Hemi-Sync world tour with International OUTREACH Trainers Carol Sabick, PhD, Kevin Turner, MA, Carmen Montoto, MA, and Deborah Sachs, MEd. Their engaging delivery, supported by gorgeous PowerPoint slides, took us from Europe to Japan and Puerto Rico with a final stop in Brazil. Eva E. Lange, MD, PhD, shared “Genetic Cleansing, Part II: A Sacred Spiral,” the concluding segment of her odyssey through the death transition with her beloved mother and details of lessons from TMI programs that affected their relationship. Participants learned and laughed as Brian Dailey, MD,

presented a smorgasbord of Hemi-Sync exercises and their uses, illustrating the main points with PowerPoint slides and humorous film clips. The final presentation, by Patricia Macca Peters, MFA, was an introduction to the *Creative Flow* workshop. The centerpiece of the evening was the showing of a “work in progress”—a video montage of Bob’s life that is being created from archived film clips. Then Laurie led a lively “synchronized” brainstorming session. Afterward, the whole group settled down with popcorn for a surprise advance showing of *The Celestine Prophecy* movie.

On the last day of the seminar, Patricia laid out brilliant poster paints, brushes, and butcher paper in David Francis Hall. Hands-on creative expression was interspersed with *Creative Flow* Hemi-Sync exercises. The resulting artwork was displayed that evening at the Roberts Mountain Retreat reception. Gregory Carroll’s excellent piano playing was complemented by the full-throated participation of two guests with classical opera training. Refreshed by quality time in the Blue Ridge, a caravan of participants headed down Roberts Mountain Road on March 29, with ideas for the Twenty-first Seminar in 2008 already fermenting in their minds.

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